SYNNESTVEDT & LECHNER LLP

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This application is a U.S. national stage application based on International Application No. PCT/CA00/00078, filed January 28, 2000, which claims the benefit of the filing date of Canadian Application No. 2,260,397, filed January 29, 1999

REMARKS

The status of the present application is that applicant is awaiting a first Action on the merits.

The above amendment was made for the purpose of claiming the benefit of an earlier filed foreign application under 37 C.F.R. §1.55. Since the present application is currently pending and is the U.S. national stage of an international application filed before November 29, 2000, the present amendment is filed timely under 37 C.F.R. §1.55(a)(1). Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by the current amendment. The attached version is captioned "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

An early and favorable Action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Page 1, the paragraph following "Cross Reference to Related Applications" has been amended as follows.

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